

REMARKS

Interview Summary

Applicants wish to thank the Examiner for participating in the interview dated April 8, 2004. Applicant's representative, Mr. McGarrigle, briefly discussed the outstanding office action in which he respectfully disagreed with the present rejections and explained that the claims were originally drafted as that was what Applicants believed was acceptable practice for computer software related claims. However, the Examiner and Mr. McGarrigle discussed redrafting the claims in a more straightforward manner. Thereafter, Applicants discussed potential claim amendments with the Examiner on May 7th, 2004, but no agreement was reached. However, the Examiner offered several helpful suggestions which have been incorporated into the claims. For example, he suggested deleting the last limitation of claim 57 and redefining the term "different". It is hoped that the present format will be more presentable to the Examiner. Consequently, Applicants believe that the present claims are patentable and request allowance at the Examiner's earliest convenience.

Miscellaneous Edits

Applicants have made some minor edits to the claims. For example, the work "solid" has been deleted from some dependant claims as the independent claim did not recite the word, "known locations" was changed to "localized areas" as in prior amendments, and scientific notation was used. Additionally, Applicants inserted some dependant claim language into some independent claims as other amendments made some claims more similar.

Sequence Rule Non-Compliance

In response to Examiner's indication of a non-compliance with 37 CFR §1.821 through 1.825 due to alleged absence of SEQ ID Nos., Applicants wish to direct the Examiner's attention to an amendment filed on August 22, 2002 for the instant application. Applicants have verified, through PAIR, the actual receipt and possession of this document by the USPTO and have attached an additional copy of the relevant portion for the Examiner's review. In light of this fact, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and withdrawal of the above objection.